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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I strongly oppose the Microsoft settlement, on the grounds that it would be ineffective in preventing Microsoft's continued abuse of its monopoly. The proposed remedy is no more than a slap on the wrist.

I am a Macintosh user, and I actually like Microsoft's Mac products. Many of them are the best products available for what they do. However, I cannot say the same for their PC products. None of Microsoft's PC products are nearly as good as their mac equivalents, and the Microsoft Windows operating system is consistently horrible. Furthermore, the PC products are full heavy-handed anti-competitive features that interfere with the usability of the products. Yet many of my co-workers are forced to use Microsoft Windows and Office due to network effects.

The moral of this story is clear. Microsoft can produce good software, but only if they are forced to compete, and prevented from colluding. The only way to do this is to break up the company into an operating system company and an applications company. Furthermore, as a remedial measure, Microsoft must be forced to document its file formats and data structures, in order to avoid the sort of practices that they used to kill WordPerfect.

This will force Microsoft to spend their money developing good software, not buying potential competitors, strong-arming suppliers, and drowning out potential competitors with waves of advertising.

Thank you,  
Jeremiah Blatz